



Livestock and Dairy

Cattle and Calves

Virginia's cattle inventory took a turn upward in 2009 for the first time since 2006. As of January 1, 2010, Virginia had 1,550,000 cattle and calves, which is up 80,000 head from the previous year. Beef cows increased to 665,000 head, up 22,000 head from last year. Milk cows however, continued to decline, and totaled 95,000 head, the lowest on record for the Commonwealth. Calves less than 500 pounds were 350,000 head, remaining the same as 2009. The calf crop totaled 690,000 head, up 10,000 head from last year.

Milk Production

Milk Production in Virginia totaled 1.74 billion pounds, up slightly from last year. This is despite a continuing decline in milk cows on farm shown in the past few years. Milk per cow was up 471 pounds at 18,083 pounds per cow. The Gross Producer Income for 2009 was 264.4 million dollars, down 29 percent from last year.

Sheep and Lambs

Sheep and Lamb inventory in Virginia totaled 89,000 head on January 1, 2010, up 14,000 head compared to last year. Ewes one year and older totaled 55,000 head, up 7,000 head from a year earlier. There were 12,000 replacement lambs on the first

of the year, up 1,000 head from last year. The 2009 lamb crop was 63,000 head up 3,000 head from the previous year. Sheep and lambs for market slaughter totaled 18,000 head, up 5,000 head from the previous year.

Goats and Kids

Meat and all other goats in Virginia totaled 52,000 head, down 10,000 head compared to January 1, 2009. Milk goats totaled 5,800 head, up 1,300 from a year earlier and Angora goats totaled 1,400 head.

Hogs and Pigs

There were 365,000 Hogs and Pigs in Virginia as of December 1, 2009. This was up 10,000 head from last year. Breeding hog inventory totaled 25,000 head and market hogs totaled 340,000 head. Market hog inventory increased 15,000 head when compared to December 1, 2008. The 2009 pig crop totaled 488,000, down 40,000 head from last year. Sows farrowed decreased 4,000 head from the previous year to 52,000 head. The average pigs per litter, at 9.38 pigs, was down slightly from 9.43 in 2008.